

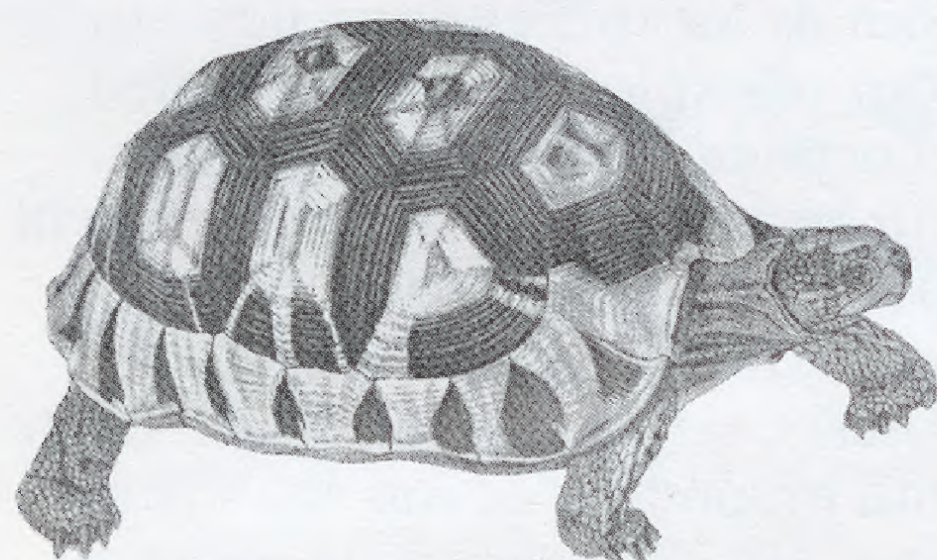
The ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

November 1990



Members' Meetings

"The Turtle Planet"



Dr. Peter Pritchard presents a film from his fascinating series, "The Turtle Planet." This film, entitled *Bostami, Vishnu, and Walter: An Exploration of the Tangled Destinies of Turtles and Man*, is an insightful look into the amazing diversity of these shelled reptiles. Turtles occur on all continents except Antarctica and are found in a variety of habitats ranging from lakes to deserts. This film takes us to the exotic countries of the East—Bangladesh, Thailand and India—where people of diverse faiths all regard turtles as objects of veneration. We travel to the Calcutta Zoo to view what may be

Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2 & 7:30
Thursday, Nov. 15, 7:30

the world's oldest creature—a giant tortoise that came to the zoo as a large adult in 1874. The film explores how the longevity of turtles is being threatened by man—meat markets, sea turtle hunting, and incidental capture in fishing nets.

Dr. Peter Pritchard is a turtle biologist who has traveled around the world studying many species of rare and endangered turtles. His books include *Encyclopedia of Turtles* and *The Alligator Snapping Turtle: Biology and Conservation*. This meeting may last for 90-minutes or more as the film alone is 50 minutes in length. The Academy Store will be open 30 minutes before and after the program.

December Members' Meetings will be on the 12th and 13th and will feature "Sacred Mountains of the World" with Edwin Bernbaum.

Holiday Book Fair Members' Shopping Night

Friday, December 7
5:30–8:30 pm

Please reserve the evening of December 7th to visit the Academy for our Holiday Book Fair! You'll receive a 15% discount on all your purchases in the Academy Store. Enjoy the best selection of gift books for all ages before the public joins the fun on December 8th & 9th during regular museum hours.

The evening will feature specially selected books for children, and

there will be staff on hand to make recommendations for the young people on your holiday gift list. Unique, high-quality gift items also will be on sale in the Academy Store. The entire museum will be open, and special activities are planned. For more information, call the Membership Office at (415) 750-7113.

Turkish Weavers Visit The Academy



John Steroy, S.F. Examiner

Turkish weavers visit Academy

Two carpet weavers from the Turkish village of Ayvacik will be visiting the Academy for one week in November. Munire Avseren and Hatice Erkol will set up large, rough-hewn looms in Wattis Hall and provide public demonstrations of rug weaving daily from 10 am to 5 pm, from November 9–15. The demonstrations are augmented with displays of traditional carpets, photographs and an educational video. An interpreter will be on hand for visitors' questions.

Their visit to the Bay Area is sponsored by Return to Tradition, a San Francisco-based organization that helps support a weavers' cooperative market in Anatolia. The project, called DOBAG, was established in 1981 to revive and preserve traditional methods of carpet production and to maintain the original designs.

About forty villages in remote areas of western Turkey rely on the central cooperative for economic survival. For these once-nomadic people, making carpets is a cottage industry and family endeavor. Men raise the sheep and shear the wool; women card, handspin, dye and weave the wool. The skills and designs are handed down from mother to daughter.

Come to the Academy for the unique opportunity to view this traditional art form.

Lecture

Discovery and Exploration of a Deep-Sea Shipwreck

Friday, Nov. 16, 7:30 pm



The S.S. Central America

In 1857, the S.S. *Central America* successfully completed 43 round-trip passages on the Atlantic gold route between New York and Panama. In mid-September, after fighting a powerful hurricane, it sank in the area of the Atlantic known as the Sargasso Sea, or more ominously, the "Bermuda Triangle." The lives of 425 were lost and the ship sank holding several tons of gold cargo.

In 1988, after years of meticulous historical research and laborious oceanographic surveys, the *Central America* was located at a depth of nearly 8000 feet. An unmanned submersible, *Nemo*, was specifically designed and constructed by the study team for the exploration and recovery phases of the project. This 6-ton undersea vessel was equipped with video

and stereo cameras and robotic arms. The exploration of the wreck site and its environs has yielded a wealth of invaluable information on the marine life, geochemistry and sediment geology of this deep sea area.

Dr. Charles E. Herdendorf, Science Coordinator of the S.S. *Central America* Project and Professor Emeritus of The Ohio State University, will discuss the Project's findings, highlighting the substantial contributions their scientific staff has made to the understanding of deep sea biology and geology as well as archaeological discoveries.

Tickets for this lecture are \$3 for members and \$5 for nonmembers. Please use the coupon below to order your tickets. For more information call 750-7217.

Ticket Order Form—Friday, November 16 "Shipwreck"—7:30 pm

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Zip _____
Daytime phone _____

Lecture only:
_____ \$3 member tickets
_____ \$5 non-member tickets

Please send your check payable to the California Academy of Sciences and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:
The Special Programs Office
California Academy of Sciences
Golden Gate Park
San Francisco, CA 94118

No refunds/No exchanges

Adult Education

Natural History of Sonoma County



November 10-12

The California Quail

Join us for this exciting new study tour to explore the many varied ecosystems of Sonoma County. For three days, Greg deNevers will lead our group to the beaches, upland vernal pools, redwood forests, serpentine outcrops, rivers and mountains of this fascinating area. Mr. deNevers is the resident biologist of the Academy's Pepperwood Ranch Nature Preserve near Santa Rosa. We'll provide van transportation, catered meals and extensive instruction. The group will be camping at Pepperwood. (Participants will need to provide their own sleeping bags and tents.) Moderately strenuous.

Cost: \$125 Academy members
\$150 Non-members

Contact the Adult Education Office at 750-7100 for more information about this and other courses.

Penguins on Display

The black-footed penguins of the Academy's Steinhart Aquarium have been behind-the-scenes waiting for their newly designed exhibit to be finished. Their new habitat is scheduled to re-open on November 8th. The remodeled exhibit will provide a larger swimming area as well as more nesting sites for this successful breeding colony. Viewers will have unique opportunities to view the distinctive behaviors between adult and baby penguins as well as their active swimming patterns. Come and get a birds-eye view as the penguins explore their new digs!

Research at the Academy



David Littschwager, CAS

Diatom Symposium visits Academy

Dr. Pat Kociolek, Chairman of the Academy's Invertebrate Zoology and Geology Department, convened the 11th International Diatom Symposium recently in San Francisco. The Academy co-sponsored the meeting and participants visited the Academy's world-class collection of diatoms and literature. Over 200 participants from 28 countries attended this biennial event including two Soviet scientists who were sponsored by the Academy. The Academy will publish, and Dr. Kociolek will edit, the *Proceedings* volume of the symposium.

Dr. Bob Drewes, Acting Director of Public Programs and Associate Curator of Herpetology, has received funding from USAID, CARE and World Wildlife Fund for a survey of the reptiles and amphibians of the Impenetrable Forest, southwest Uganda. Dr. Harry

Green (UCB), a fellow of the Academy, will accompany Dr. Drewes for one month while Jens Vindum, Academy Herpetology Collections Manager, and Jim O'Brien, Curatorial Assistant, will stay an additional month to do further analysis of the area. Assisting the project will be Ugandan students from Makerere University, game scouts, the Chief Game Warden and other scientists from the Development Through Conservation organization.

Dr. Ed Ross, Curator Emeritus of Entomology, is featured in a new book created by The Xerces Society in association with the Smithsonian Institution. *Butterfly Gardening: Creating Summer Magic in Your Garden*, published by Sierra Club Books, includes two chapters written by Dr. Ross and features many of his renowned photographs.

Open House

Members' Open House will be scheduled for Spring 1991 when reconstruction to our main entrance will be completed. We look forward to welcoming you through our new entryway and hope you will join us for exciting behind-the-scenes tours. Please check future issues of this newsletter for your Open House invitation.

Recycled Newsletter!

You may have noticed that, starting last month, your membership newsletter is now being printed on recycled paper. The Academy has an on-going commitment to producing materials using recycled products whenever possible. Every little bit counts!

Traditional Arts Programs for November



Becari Tamburitza Orchestra

Travel the world and experience other cultures without leaving home! Traditional Arts programs take visitors to the far corners of the world every Saturday at 1 pm in Wattis Hall or Morrison Auditorium. These programs are made possible through a generous gift from the Paul L. and Phyllis Wattis Foundation and are free after general admission.

Nov. 3 — Becari Tamburitza Orchestra plays Serbo-Croatian folk music, ballads, and spirited *kolo* or dance tunes on traditional Yugoslavian and Balkan string instruments that include the *prim*, the *brac* and the *bugaria*.

Nov. 10 — Munire Ayseren and Hatice Erkol, visiting the Bay Area from the village of Ayvacik in western Turkey, set up looms and weave traditional handknotted carpets from natural plant-dyed wool.

Nov. 17 — An accomplished performer on the guitar, five-string banjo and fiddle, Tom Paley entertains us with a medley of old-time string band music and American regional songs.

Nov. 24 — Ruth Stotter hosts a family Thanksgiving story-telling swap and invites Academy members to come and share their folktales or family experiences with the audience in a cross-cultural exchange. Ruth also has a few stories of her own to contribute to the program.

Lecture
“Madagascar: A World Out of Time”

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 7:30 pm



Frans Lanting

Mouse Lemur

Using the extraordinary images from his new book, Madagascar: A World Out of Time, Frans Lanting will illustrate the astounding beauty as well as the wrenching conflicts of an island paradise in peril in his lecture in the Academy's Morrison Auditorium.

In 1985, at the end of Madagascar's long political isolation, Lanting was one of the first photographers in more than 15 years to get a comprehensive look at the island's unique flora and fauna. He documented animals never before photographed and discovered a tribe that many anthropologists thought existed only in folklore. Lanting writes, "Few places on earth can lay better claim to the epithet of a lost world than Madagascar.... It is a world out of time, a micro-cosmos that shows the wondrous creativity of the forces of nature and the human mind as nature and culture evolve in isolation." But this "micro-cosmos" is being profoundly jeopardized by the mushrooming human population and the slash-and-burn technique of agriculture. Lanting is optimistic that international conservation groups can address the needs of the Malagasy people and work cooperatively in trying to stem the environmental destruction endangering this island.

Tickets for this lecture are \$3 for members and \$5 for nonmembers. Please use the order form to purchase your tickets. For more information, call 750-7217.

Ticket Order Form—Wednesday, November 28

“Madagascar”—7:30 pm

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Daytime phone _____

Lecture only:

_____ \$3 member tickets

_____ \$5 guest tickets

Please send your check payable to the California Academy of Sciences and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

The Special Programs Office
 California Academy of Sciences
 Golden Gate Park
 San Francisco, CA 94118

No refunds/No exchanges

**Ocean Arts Festival
 at Lahaina
 Galleries**

December 8, 6–10 pm



Robert Lyn Nelson

“Enfolding Water Fantasy”

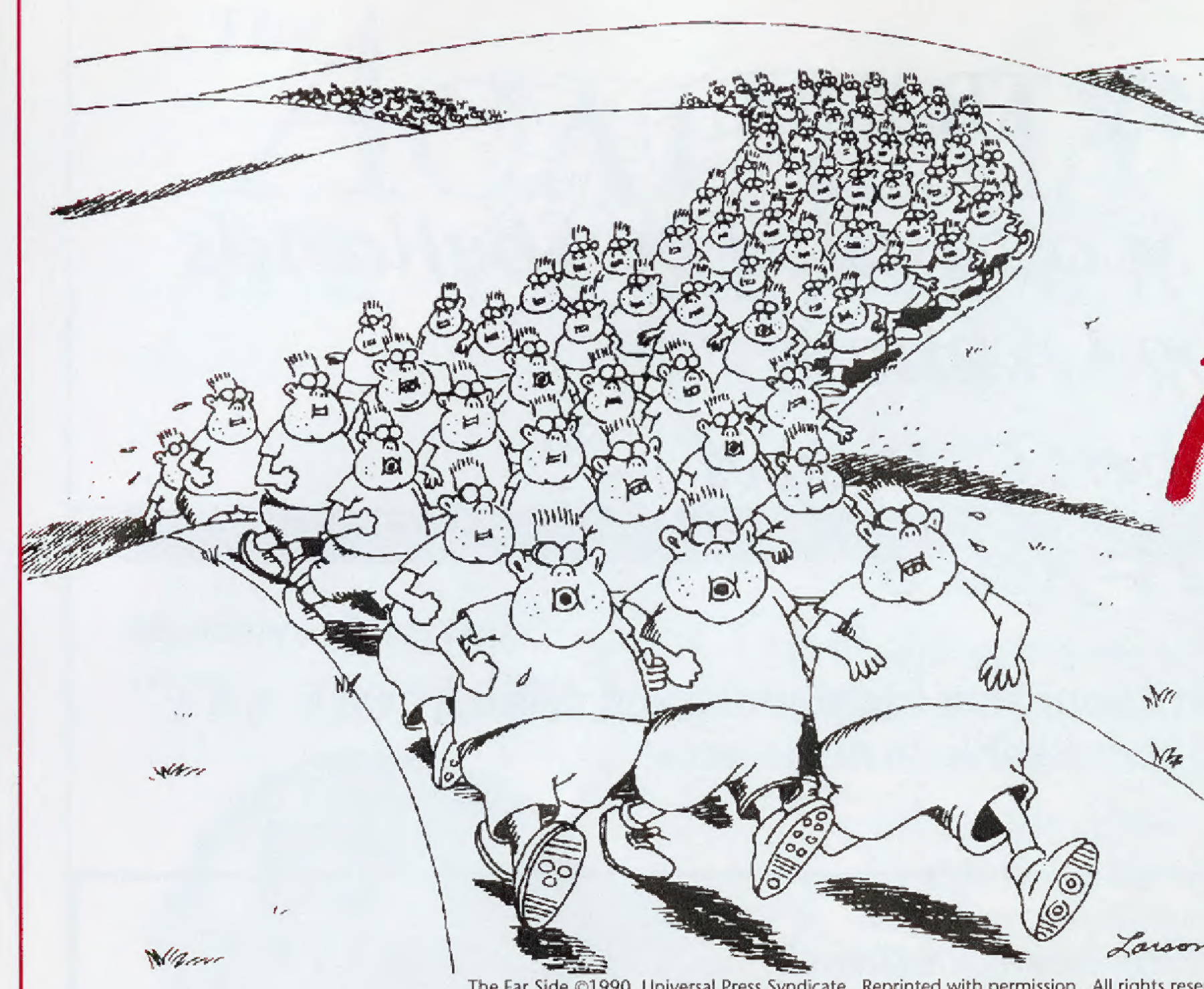
Lahaina Galleries and the Academy's Steinhart Aquarium are proud to announce the second annual “Ocean Arts Festival,” featuring the world's most celebrated marine life artist, Robert Lyn Nelson. There will be a poster signing reception on Saturday, December 8th, 6–10 pm at Lahaina Galleries, 645 Beach Street at Hyde. All proceeds will benefit the Steinhart Aquarium. We are looking forward to seeing everyone at this year's Ocean Arts Festival. For more information, call Lahaina Galleries at (415) 749-1000.

**Tidepool Volunteers
 Needed**

The Aquarium is seeking volunteers to assist as interpreters of the Tidepool Touch Tank. Volunteers are provided with an orientation and an illustrated manual and are expected to do at least two 2-hour shifts a month. If you're interested in this rewarding and valuable service, please call 750-7154.

The California Academy of Sciences

and
GEO
 present



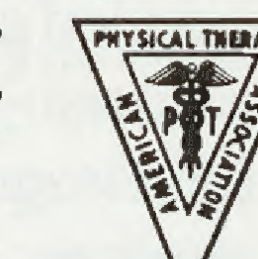
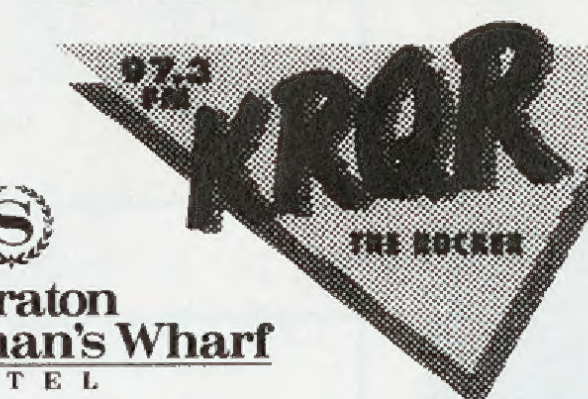
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**Run to the
 Far Side VI**

5K Run or Walk & 10K Run

Sunday, November 25, 1990 • 8:30 AM
 Golden Gate Park • San Francisco

- **A new Geo car or truck** to 1st overall 10K male & female runners; Southwest Airlines tickets & customized Far Side prizes to overall 5K winners and to the best Far Side costume.
- **Win a Geo tree!** Geo will plant a tree in Golden Gate Park for every 100th registered Far Side participant.
- **Start / Finish** in Golden Gate Park in front of the California Academy of Sciences.
- **Customized Far Side awards** to 5K & 10K 1st place age division and wheelchair winners.
- **Random Prizes** include Southwest Airlines tickets and autographed Larson memorabilia.
- **Every registered participant wins** an original Gary Larson “Run to the Far Side VI” t-shirt.
- **Pre-register** by November 18th for \$15.00 (or join us race day for \$18.00).
- **Race Management:** RhodyCo Productions • **Race Hotline** (415) 387-2178



PRE-REGISTER by November 18th for \$15.00. Mail checks (payable to California Academy of Sciences), completed entry form and a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

Run to the Far Side c/o RhodyCo
 3929 California Street
 San Francisco, CA 94118

Or join us on race day for \$18.00

Besides the “Run to the Far Side VI” t-shirt I'll be receiving on race day, I would like to order the following “Run to the Far Side VI” black sweatshirt for \$20.00 each to be picked up race day.
 Please order by 11/15/90. No refunds or exchanges.

Quantity: _____ Sizes: _____ *Total \$: _____ (Number of shirts x \$20.00)
 Please add this amount to your entry fee.

**Run to the
 Far Side VI**

SEX ☐ M ☐ F DATE OF BIRTH Month Day Year AGE ON RACE DAY ☐ WHEELCHAIR ☐ For Official Use Only

LAST NAME FIRST

STREET

CITY STATE CA

☐ 5K ☐ 10K PHONE

WAIVER: In consideration of your accepting this entry, I, intending to be legally bound, do hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may accrue against the California Academy of Sciences, Geo / Chevrolet Motor Division of General Motors Corporation, the Recreation and Parks Department, City and County of San Francisco, RhodyCo Productions, Total Race Systems and PA/TAC for any and all injuries that may be suffered by me at or enroute to or from the event. I attest that I am physically fit and sufficiently trained for this competition, my physical condition verified by a licensed M.D. during the last 6 months. As part of the waiver I acknowledge that I have read and understood all of the above and, in consideration of this being an amateur event, I grant full permission to any and all organizations which obtain photographs, motion pictures, videotapes, recording or any other record of this event to use them for any purpose whatsoever.

ALL ENTRANTS MUST SIGN WAIVER
 (Parent / Guardian if under 18)

DATE



ACADEMY TRAVEL

Birding in Northern Scotland, The Shetlands and The Orkneys

with Dr. Robert C. Drewes

May 25–June 8

Join Academy members on a tour that highlights exceptional
birding opportunities and remarkable historic sites.

*Sightings on
a typical day in
and around
Aigas:*

25th of May, 1989
overcast/breezy

grey heron
shelduck
carrion crow
rook
mallard
seals
black grouse
pheasant
curlew
blackbird
jackdaw
hooded crow
buzzard
pied wagtail
sparrow
godwit
mistle thrush
tufted duck
lapwing
kestrel
sandpiper
wheatear



*Aigas House,
Northern Scotland*



*A friendly sign greets
visitors to Lerwick,
Shetland Islands*



*A puffin at
Sumburgh Head*

Cost is \$3178
plus airfare
(currently \$1424).

For A Detailed
Brochure, Please
Contact the
Academy Travel
Office at
(415) 750-7222.

In Northern Scotland:

Our home will be at Aigas, the estate of Sir John Lister-Kaye. Aigas offers our travellers access to a variety of diverse and lovely habitats. We will search along rivers for WADERS and DUCKS that gather to feed. The native Caledonian pine forests are home to a specialized group of birds which includes the SCOT-TISH CROSSBILL, CRESTED TIT, SISKIN and CAPERCAILLIE. Hiking in the spectacular high moors, we hope for sightings of RED DEER, RED GROUSE, MERLIN and HEN HARRIERS. At the summits, the intrepid explorer may find GOLDEN EAGLES and PTARMIGAN. A day of historic sites includes the fascinating Stone Age Clava Cairns, the stark ruins of Barevan Church and the stately Cawdor Castle.

The Shetland Islands:

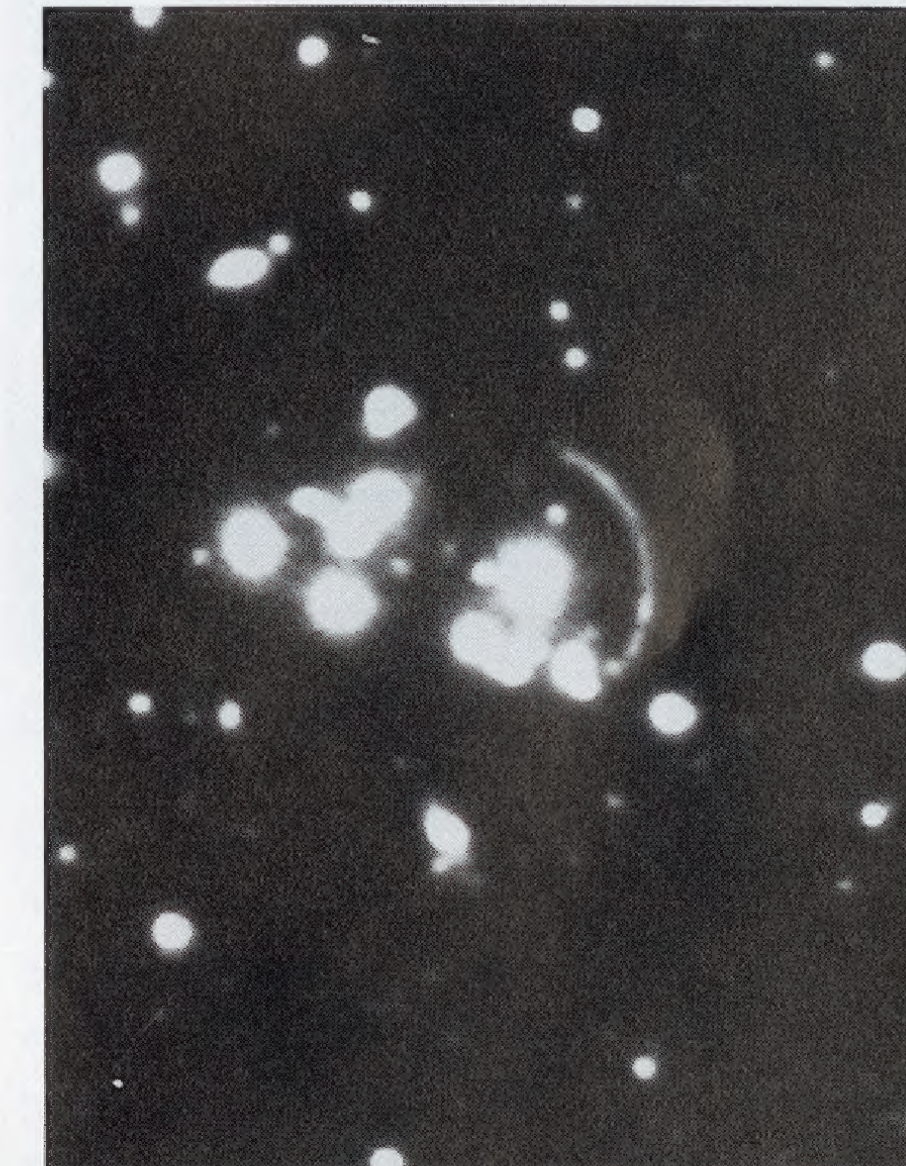
Here we find more exceptional birding opportunities at sites such as the magnificent cliffs of Sumburgh Head, home to thousands of PUFFINS, RAZORBILLS and KITTIWAKES. At the Isle of Noss, we will visit one of Europe's greatest seabird colonies, to see ARCTIC TERNS, EIDERS, GREAT SKUAS, GANNETS, KITTIWAKES and GUILLEMOTS. We will also enjoy famous archaeological sites of Jarlshof and Mousa.

The Orkney Islands:

We will explore many fascinating historic sites that grace the hillsides of this verdant and dramatically beautiful island group. Archaeological evidence tells of the continuous occupation of the Orkneys for 6,000 years—from Stone Age people to Picts, Celts, Vikings and today's friendly inhabitants.

Lecture Series “Exploring the Universe”

Tuesday, December 4
7:30 pm



Galaxy cluster

The phenomenon known as gravitational lensing was a possibility Einstein evaluated 60 years ago, but has been observed only recently as elongated arc-like images of distant galaxies. Various observations and ideas about the evolution of our universe seem to indicate that 90–99% of matter in the universe is invisible (does not shine), and may consist of exotic matter. The phenomenon of gravitational lensing is a valuable tool for testing such ideas.

On December 4 at 7:30 pm, Morrison Planetarium presents Professor Vahé Petrosian of the Center for Space Sciences and Astrophysics at Stanford University, co-discoverer of this phenomenon. He will describe its implication for the evolution of matter in our universe in his talk, “Gravitational Lenses and Dark Matter: Weighing the Matter in the Universe.” Tickets for this presentation are now available only on a standby, first-come first-served basis. For information on seat availability, call (415) 750-7129.

This series is made possible through the generosity of the Benjamin D. Dean Endowment Fund.

Sky Show

See The Stars in the
Middle of the Day at the
Morrison Planetarium

Morrison Planetarium is now open with the new show “Sister Worlds.” Among the 70 known celestial bodies, is any planet or moon truly unique or do they all have something in common? Sit back and enjoy this show as we explore the answer to this fascinating question. “Sister Worlds” is shown Monday–Friday at 2 pm and weekends at 1, 2, 3 and 4 pm.

“Startalk” is a brief tour of the heavens which tells you what’s up in the sky from sunset to sunrise. Presented weekends at noon.

“A Christmas Star” opens November 30th. This presentation unravels the mystery of the legend of the Star of Bethlehem. Remember you must exchange your complimentary Planetarium pass at the Planetarium Box Office. For more information, call 750-7141.

For schedule and information for Laserium, please call 750-7138. Unfortunately, your complimentary Planetarium passes are NOT valid for Laserium shows.



Susan Middleton, CAS

Free First Wednesday

November 7, 5–8 pm



Devil Mountain Jazz Band

We honor Yosemite’s 100th birthday as a National Park this month with an evening of family fun. Come to the Climber’s Bar for a light supper and listen to the music of the Devil Mountain Jazz Band. The Discovery Room will be open with interactive exhibits from the world of nature. Create your own environmental art in a hands-on art activity for kids. Hear an Academy scientist discuss the natural history of Yosemite. Relax in Morrison Planetarium and celebrate the great outdoors with the Concert Under the Stars. It’s all happening from 5–8 pm on November 7th. These special Wednesday night programs are made possible through a generous grant from The Bernard Osher Foundation.

Young Audiences

Sunday, November 25, 1 pm

With major funding from the McKesson Foundation and Grants for the Arts, Young Audiences presents an exciting series of performing arts programs for children, taking place one Sunday each month in Morrison Auditorium. Join the fun on November 25th when Dance Kaiso explores the cultural music and dance of Africa and Latin America as practiced on the islands of Cuba, Haiti and Trinidad.

*Time Dated Material
Please Expedite*

November 1990

Open daily 10 am to 5 pm

*Golden Gate Park
San Francisco, California 94118-4599
(415)221-5100*



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ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

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San Francisco*

Calendar of Events

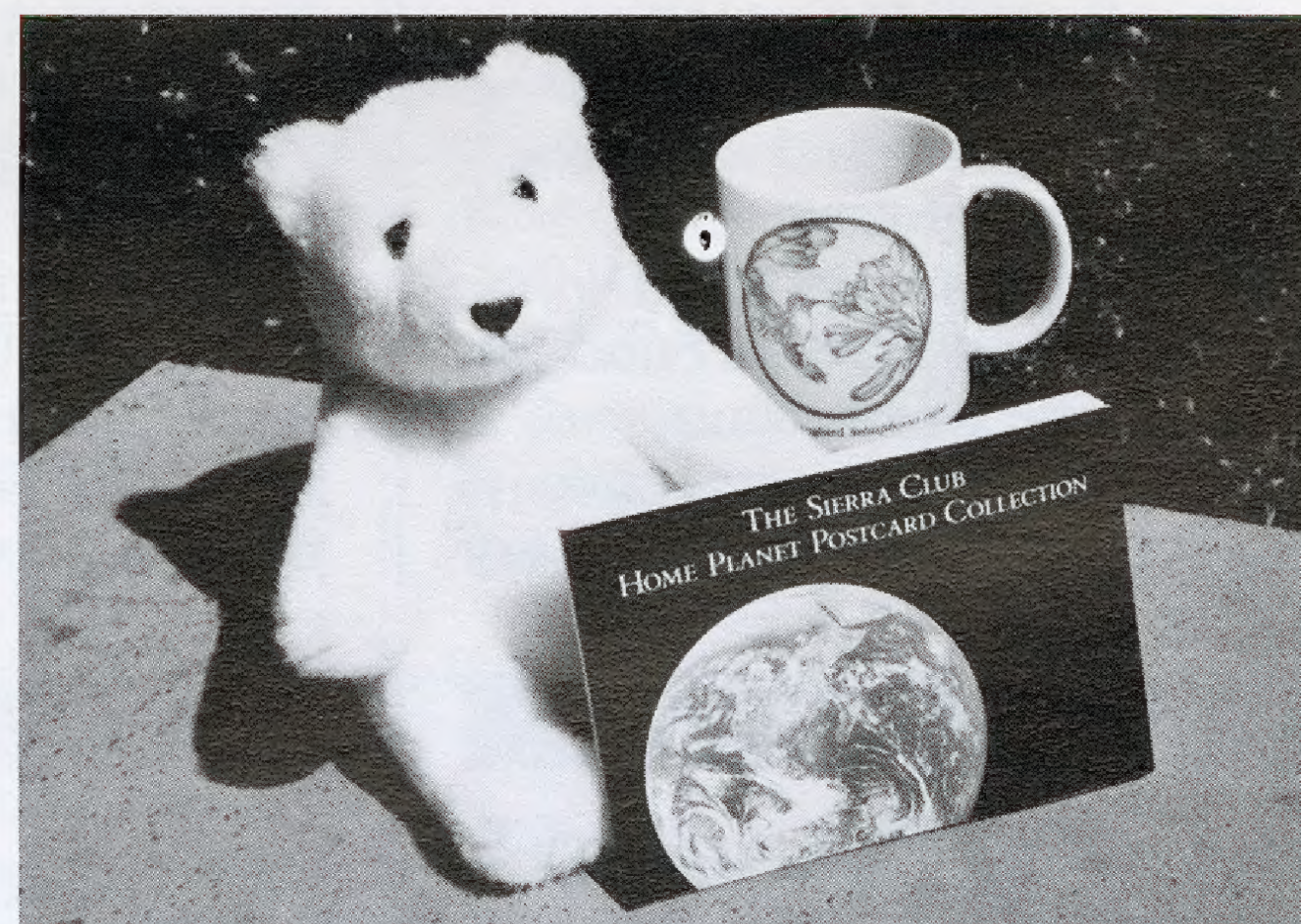
November

- 3 Traditional Arts, 1 pm
- 6 "Universe" Series, 7:30 pm
- 7 1st Wednesday night, until 8:45
- 9 Turkish Weavers at CAS
- 10 Traditional Arts, 1 pm
- 13 Lecture, "African Ark," 7:30 pm
- 14 Members' Meetings, "Turtle Planet," 2 & 7:30 pm
- 15 Members' Meeting, 7:30 pm
- 16 Lecture, "Shipwreck," 7:30 pm
- 17 Traditional Arts, 1 pm
- 24 Traditional Arts, 1 pm
- 25 Run To The Far Side VI, 8:30 am
- 25 Young Audiences, 1 pm
- 28 Lecture, "Madagascar," 7:30 pm
- 30 "Christmas Star" opens in Morrison Planetarium

December

- 4 "Universe" Series, 7:30 pm
- 7 Members' Holiday Book Fair, 5:30 pm
- 8 Ocean Arts Festival, 6 pm
- 12 Members' Meetings, "Sacred Mountains," 2 & 7:30 pm
- 13 Members' Meeting, 7:30 pm

Academy Store



It's not too early to think about your holiday shopping and where better to begin than at the Academy Store! The Store offers many products developed by environmentally concerned, non-profit organizations. These educational, interesting and fun items include Sierra Club notes, Environmental Defense Fund Christmas cards, World Wildlife Fund plush animals, socks, tins, mugs and, of course, the Academy's own mugs, notes and posters.

You can double the impact of your spending dollar by supporting these meaningful organizations and the Academy's own important programs.